

# City of Beaverton

## Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC)

### Minutes – September 1, 2009

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#### **Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m. by Chair Ernie Conway.

#### **Present:**

Chair Ernie Conway, Vice Chair Bjoern Brunner, Dave Brown, Mike Mulligan, Dana Barnes, Barbara Chapnick, Mary Elizabeth Smith, Will Cortez, City Transportation Engineer Jabra Khasho, Project Engineer Tu Ho, City Staff Liaison Margaret Middleton, Senior Transportation Planner, Officer Patrick, Mayor Doyle.

#### **Absent:**

Richard Hoge, Councilor Betty Bode.

#### **Visitors:**

Jim Parsons, Newton Baker, Travis Davenport.

#### **Approval of Minutes**

The meeting minutes of August 2009 were approved as written. Barnes/Mulligan (8/0).

#### **Staff Communications**

Councilor Bode: Council Bode sent her apologies.

Police: None.

Transportation: City Transportation Engineer Jabra Khasho talked about the bike stencils on Main at Allen. He reported that permanent stencils have been installed on Main Street to mark the best position for the cyclists to be detected by the traffic signal. He also reported that the 153<sup>rd</sup> bike lane striping project is complete. This project was reviewed by the BAC a few months ago. Ernie said he rode on 153<sup>rd</sup> Drive and felt that the new bike lanes ride well. Dana asked about the Allen and King signal since she saw it was being worked on. Jabra stated that the cameras are being repositioned. For the last two days, the signal has been recalling the green light on all approaches regardless of whether or not there was a vehicle to be served. Barbara asked why she had to wait seven minutes at 6<sup>th</sup> and Murray for the signal to allow her to cross the street (Murray). Jabra said he would look into it.

Staff liaison Margaret Middleton responded to the committee's inquiry about Tigard not having a bicycle advisory committee. She reported that she had talked with Tigard staff who explained that their Council wanted to develop a Transportation Committee first. This has been accomplished, so now the City is establishing a bike committee.

Margaret told the committee that she scheduled a BTA representative to come to the November meeting. Amy Miner will be here at the October meeting to talk about a Bike

Beaverton marketing budget. The annual bike crash report will also be on the October agenda. Margaret also updated the committee on the progress of the Transportation System Plan and noted the final October 1 Open House, which is prior to the Traffic Commission meeting. The full draft TSP will be out for public review prior to the Open House.

**Visitors:** No issues.

### **New Business**

Mayor Doyle introduced himself. He stated that he “had a ball” at Bike Beaverton; it was a flawless event. He understood that participation had doubled over last year’s and he hoped it would double next year. He said it is great for promoting safety, raising awareness, and educating the public. He noted that the City is participating in BTA’s Bike Commute Challenge. Bike commuting must be addressed seriously and he would like to work with the BAC to do this. He said it is important to lead by example.

Mayor Doyle summarized all of the agencies that the City works with to encourage cycling and promote more active transportation alternatives. He said that he will take more staff resources under advisement. He said that support from the Council is key to the committee. He would like to see the BAC come to Council a couple times a year. It does not have to be a formal presentation; it could just be under the visitors section of the meeting. Council meetings are a great forum to address the public on bicycling. The Council could also address the committee’s request for resources.

Barbara asked if Bike Beaverton could have a paid person to manage it. Mayor Doyle said that he would look into it. The committee first needs to get a budget together that identifies how much staff time is needed and the tasks.

Jim Parsons said that it is getting darker and he said that the Sheriff’s Dept. is giving out tickets on Center at Lombard to bike riders who do not have lights. He would like BPD to give out free bike lights and issue warnings for cyclists without lights. If they get caught without a light after they receive the free light, then they will be issued a ticket.

Dana said that the committee should look at combining Bike Beaverton with the parade or another established City event that is compatible. Resources could be better used. Mayor Doyle said he would talk to George, the parade’s organizer about it and see if he might come to a meeting. Dana also stated that Beaverton is bike friendly; it’s almost a fabulous bike friendly city except for the details like mapping and signing the routes people find friendliest. Publicizing maps and signage is a better investment than infrastructure.

Ernie noted that there is not a grid system except in downtown. This makes riding more difficult in Beaverton as opposed to downtown Portland. Margaret stated that the city has a bike signage plan and identifies routes in the transportation plan, but since the routes include ODOT and County facilities, there have been some issues that remain unresolved with these agencies. She continues to work on them. Ernie reminded the committee that the Washington County Visitors Bureau is developing the touring map. Barbara is their subcommittee member. Barbara complained that the Lombard and Broadway intersection is not safe and noted she had nearly been hit so had filed a complaint with the police.

Will said that the school district and City don't talk about safe routes to school. Margaret stated she had worked for several years with the district and Greenway Elementary School on safe routes, but that the district preferred to implement the program by themselves. The Mayor brought up some examples of how the City is working with various schools on specific problems. Jabra said that Randy Kayfes is no longer with the District and was replaced. Jabra works with the district quite often on crossings and other traffic issues. It was suggested that the new school district Public Safety Director, Kevin Southerland, come to a BAC meeting. Will said that there is a healthcare angle to encouraging activities like biking across one's lifespan. Mayor noted that Nancy Riles School has a walking school bus now.

Mike said he comes from the Washington D.C. area and that Beaverton is a great pleasure to ride. It has a very good system. Dana said that there are a number of people who live and work in Beaverton or Portland, and bicycling to work is a good link. Barbara talked about bicycling education and asked the Mayor to figure out how they can educate the public. Could the City dedicate space in Your City to the BAC? The Mayor said he would check with Amy. The Mayor also noted how the City now uses some of the abandoned bikes instead of sending them to the State.

## **Old Business**

### Bike Beaverton 2010

There was an extensive discussion about the budget for resources for Bike Beaverton 2010. Barbara complained about the amount of time she had to spend on the effort and asked that City staff be responsible for everything except identifying volunteers. Jabra and Margaret stated that the City already spends a huge amount of time on the event, and does not have any additional time to take on further responsibilities. Barbara and Mary Elizabeth repeated that the City dropped the ball on marketing. Amy did not do what she said she would, and they were very disappointed and felt the City should do more next year.

Margaret described the history of Bike Beaverton and how the BAC had wanted to do an event themselves and decided on the bike ride two years ago. The BAC had wanted ownership of it and was not satisfied with the initial effort last year when they identified the route and City staff did the rest. That is why this year the BAC decided to do more.

There was additional discussion about potential combinations with other City events in order to use resources more wisely. A motion was passed to look at opportunities to combine Bike Beaverton with another City event to leverage resources. (Barnes/Smith 8/o)

Ernie emphasized to Barbara that she needs to develop a budget proposal that specifically identifies all of the tasks and then quantifies the amount of time needed for each. Barbara will call Councilor Bode to get information on what Council might like to hear from the BAC and how best to present it. She will email her approach out to the BAC then develop the work plan and budget. When it is drafted, she will gather comments and prepare it for the October meeting. Mike was concerned that the BAC might exceed their skill set and abilities if the event were to get bigger. Dana said she wanted the City to do Bike Beaverton. Ernie said that the BAC can ask to be put on the Council agenda by end of year.

Barbara will get a date and title for the Council staff report so Margaret can schedule it.

### **Committee Communications**

THPRD Trails Committee Update: Dave Brown reported that the last meeting was a tour of Westside trail segments north of US 26. Dave also stated that Wendy Kroger, Chair of the Trails Committee, suggested a joint meeting and welcomed BAC members to Trails Committee meetings. The committee talked about whether to just attend a trails meeting or to invite them to join the BAC meeting. Dana said she will go to their September meeting to visit as a citizen. Dave said he will let them know the BAC is interested. Dave also mentioned that the Trails Committee is participating in the national trail counts.

Ernie reported about his conversation with a State Park Ranger about the Banks Vernonia Trail and how there is funding to continue improvements and build additional trail mileage.

Bjoern passed around photos of narrow bike boxes and lanes in Scotland. He also asked if anyone was interested in participating with him in the City's visioning workshop on October 10. Mike said he might be available.

Barbara said that the Visitors Bureau needs volunteers to test ride the routes that were drafted. There will be a total of six rides.

### **Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m. The next meeting will be held on **October 6** at 6:30 p.m. in the **2nd** Floor Conference Room of City Hall.